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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A magnetic write element for perpendicular recording comprising:  
a write pole, at least a portion of said write pole having a first and second lateral sides defining a track width;  
a trailing magnetic shield  
a write gap separating said magnetic trailing shield from said write pole; and  
at least a portion of said trailing shield having a first and second lateral sides laterally aligned with at least a portion of said first and second lateral sides of said write pole.
2. (Original) A magnetic write element as set forth in claim 1, wherein said write pole has a trapezoidal shape including a wide portion adjacent to said write gap and a narrower portion distal from said write gap, and wherein said first and second lateral sides of said magnetic trailing shield are substantially aligned with said widest portion of said write pole.
3. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said magnetic write pole is formed of laminated magnetic layers.
4. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 further comprising a magnetic return pole, and wherein said alignment of said first and second sides of said magnetic shield with said first and second sides of said write pole extends from said write gap to said return pole.

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5. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 wherein said magnetic shield includes a first portion and a second portion, said first portion having said first and second sides in substantial alignment with said first and second sides of said write pole, and wherein said second portion of said shield has first and second sides extending laterally beyond said first and second sides of said first portion.
6. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 5, wherein said shield has a throat height dimension, and wherein said first portion of said shield has third and fourth sides that are substantially aligned with a third and fourth dimension of said second shield portion along said throat height dimension.
7. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1, wherein said write element is incorporated onto a slider having a predetermined fly height and wherein said write gap is less than said fly height.
8. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 wherein said magnetic write head has an air bearing surface that is perpendicular to said first and second lateral sides of said shield, and wherein said shield has a dimension, as measured from said air bearing surface, that is substantially equal to half the distance between said first and second lateral sides of said shield.
9. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 wherein said write head has an air bearing surface and wherein said shield has a thickness as measured from said air bearing surface that is less than a distance between said lateral sides of said shield.
10. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 wherein:  
said write element has a surface defining an air bearing surface;

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a width of said write pole defines a trackwidth; and  
said shield has a thickness as measured from said air bearing surface that is less than said trackwidth.

11. (Original) A magnetic write element as in claim 1 wherein:  
said write element has a surface defining an air bearing surface;  
a width of said write pole defines a trackwidth; and  
said shield has a thickness as measured from said air bearing surface that is substantially half of said trackwidth.
12. (Withdrawn) A method for constructing a write head for perpendicular magnetic recording, comprising:  
depositing a layer of write pole material;  
depositing a non-magnetic write gap material over said write pole material;  
forming a magnetic shield pedestal over said write gap material;  
forming a magnetic shield pedestal over said write gap material layer, said shield pedestal having first and second lateral sides defining planes perpendicular to an air bearing surface; and  
performing a material removal process to remove selected portion of said write gap layer and said write pole material using said shield pedestal as a mask to prevent removal of said write gap material and said write pole material disposed beneath said shield pedestal.
13. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 12, wherein a distance between said first and second lateral sides of said shield pole material defines a track width and wherein said shield pedestal has a depth in a direction perpendicular to said air bearing surface that is less than said track width.

14. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 12, wherein a distance between said first and second lateral sides of said shield pole material defines a track width and wherein said shield pedestal has a depth in a direction perpendicular to said air bearing surface that is less than said track width.
15. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 12 wherein said material removal process comprises reactive ion etching.
16. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 12 wherein said material removal process comprise reactive ion milling at an angle of between 0 and 90 degrees with respect to at least one of said lateral side walls of said shield pedestal.
17. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 12 wherein said shield pedestal is constructed of laminated magnetic layers.
18. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 12, further comprising:  
depositing a magnetic main shield portion over said shield pedestal; and  
performing a second material removal process, using said magnetic main shield material as a mask to remove selected portions of said shield pedestal to define a throat height of said shield pedestal, said throat height being a dimension measured from said air bearing surface.
19. (Withdrawn) A method as in claim 18, wherein said second material removal process comprises reactive ion etching.
20. (Original) A magnetic recording system, comprising:  
a housing;  
a magnetic medium movably held within said housing;  
an actuator;

a slider connected with said actuator for movement relative to a surface of said magnetic medium; and

- a magnetic write element connected with said slider, and comprising:
  - a write pole, at least a portion of said write pole having a first and second lateral sides defining a track width;
  - a trailing magnetic shield;
  - a write gap separating said magnetic trailing shield from said write pole;
- and
- at least a portion of said trailing shield having a first and second lateral sides laterally aligned with at least a portion of said first and second lateral sides of said write pole.

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